THE TACOMA NORTH WEST FACTS

FROM THE VOICE OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

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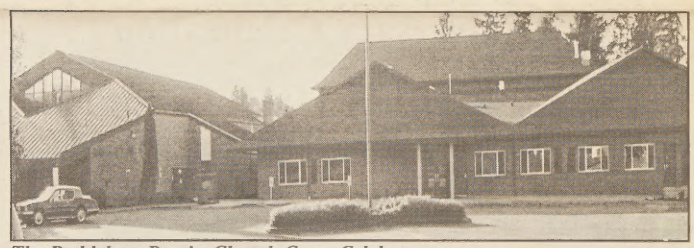
TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY 11-16-05

115th Church Anniversary
Bethlehem Baptist Church

First Lady Anna & Dr. Freeman Rhoades, Pastor Bethlehem Baptist Church

The Bethlehem Baptist Church to Celebrate its' 115th Church Anniversary, on Sunday November 20th, 2005 at 3:00 pm.
Bethlehem is located at 4818 Portland Av Tacoma, WA.
Dr. Freeman Rhoades, Pastor.
Guest Speaker will be Dr. Arthur Banks from the Eastside Baptist Church.
Come Out And Celebrate With Us.



The Bethlehem Baptist Church Come Celebrate

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Madame Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, May Be Africa's First Female President

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

LIBERIA's Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf is set to become Africa's first democratically elected female president. Ms Johnson-Sirleaf is claiming victory after results from most of the West African country gave her an apparently unbeatable lead over international football star George Weah. With almost 91 per cent of ballots counted, the electoral commission said the 67-year-old Ms Johnson-Sirleaf held about 59 per cent of Tuesday's vote, compared with 41 per cent for Mr Weah, who rejects the poll as fraudulent.

"I think the results are clear," Ms Johnson-Sirleaf said last night. "It's clear that the Liberian people have expressed confidence in me.

"They have elected me to lead the team that will bring reform to the country and that will deliver development."

For Ms Johnson-Sirleaf to be declared president, the National Elections Commission must complete ballot counting and officially certify the results, a process that could take days. Mr Weah, watching a football match on satellite television at his Monrovia villa, slammed the poll as unfair. He refused to concede victory.

"She brought in fraud. She brought extra ballots and stuffed them in the boxes," Mr Weah said of Ms Johnson-Sirleaf and her supporters.

"Somebody must be disqualified instead of claiming to be the president, this is not about who wins or who loses. "This about democracy."

International observers who monitored the poll said preliminary findings indicated it was fair. Groups of excited Liberians clustered on crumbling street corners yesterday in the bombed-out capital, swigging beers and discussing the vote.

Some argued, shaking fingers and shouting.

"We're going to do it right from day one," Ms Johnson-Sirleaf, a widowed grandmother, said in her trademark reading glasses.

"We're going to have a government of inclusion. We're going to reach out to the people." She also said she would offer Mr Weah a post in government – perhaps the ministry of youth and sports.

"We hope that Mr Weah will get over his disappointment that has led to his rejecting the results, and that ultimately he'll accept it and we'll find a way forward together," she said. Mr Weah met Alan Doss, the head of the 15,000-strong peacekeeping mission that has been deployed in Liberia since civil war ended in 2003.

"We are seeking the advice of the international community and all the people that are involved to see if everybody can arrest this situation," Mr Weah said.

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Tacoma Briefs.....

"Raising Readers" helped spark parental interest. Members from about thirty families attended the family-focused community Health Forum, held at Bates Technical College's downtown campus last Saturday. The forum was organized to help parents of pre-school aged children know the importance of reading to to and with their children prior to children entering school.

The panel of experts who spoke included, Dr. Elsa Johnson, MD, a Group Health Cooperative Pediatrician; Tomi McVay, Speech, Language, and Learning, from Group Health. Lynn Faherty, Early Learning and Development Department-Bates Technical College: Kay Lancaster and Leslie Meisner, Tacoma Public Schools. The speakers shared tips how to incorporate reading into every day activities, identify learning problems early, choose appropriate books for the child's interest, reading level, and getting children ready for school. Additional sponsors of the forum were the Tacoma Public Library and First Place for Children. Free childcare was provided by Bates personnel. Each parent and child attending was given the opportunity to select a book to take home from a wide selection of books donated by the sponsors. Children's book author, Barbara Jean Hicks, read her book, *"Jitterbug Jam"*, to the children and signed copies of her book that were given away as door prizes. Feedback from parents who attended the forum rated the program as excellent and indicated that they would recommend it to other parents. The Tacoma Facts Newspaper provided advertising to promote the Raising Readers event. Look for more of these family-focused forums to be scheduled in Tacoma next year.

The ***Police Accountability Working Group***, met with the Community and the ***Tacoma City Manager,*** Mr. Anderson at the Evergreen State College-Tacoma Campus. There were many community and civic leaders in attendance, among those:

Mayor Bill Baarsma, Deputy Mayor Connie Ladenburg, Councilmember Phillips, Senator Jeanne Darnell, Capt. Mike Miller-Tacoma Police Department, and members of the Tacoma Human Rights Commission. Mr. Sol Uwaldiale, Chair of the PAWG committee, gave a brief overview of the work of the committee. Mr. Anderson gave remarks on his thoughts of how this committee will proceed. Comments were expressed by many of the people present. Mr. Anderson advised that he does intend to ask the City Council to add the funds necessary to the Budget to fund this proposal, hopefully the position will be filled by March 2006. This was a very constructive and informative meeting . On behalf of the Tacoma Human Rights Commission and the PAWG committee, Thank you!

The Holidays are fast approaching, take care not to become overwhelmed. Take time, and do something for yourself. Get a relaxing Massage, a Manicure or Pedicure (help those tired feet to relax). Bilann's Downtown Day Spa at 1932 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA. Appointments reccommended, (253) 627-3045. Try it, you may like it.

Thought for the week: It is not what we do with our life but, who we spend it with that is crucial to our Happiness!

Aunt Alice

African American Volunteers Would Make A Difference

Have you been looking for that very meaningful and significant way to "give back"? If so, consider becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate or CASA volunteer. A CASA volunteer's mission is to interact one-on-one with a child who has been abused or neglected, usually in foster care and under the supervision of the juvenile court system. The unique opportunity lies in the fact that CASAs are appointed by a judge to 'be the voice of the child' during the period of court intervention. After thorough training, CASAs are guided by court staff to begin facilitating communication between systems to advocate for the child they represent. Their interactions vary from attorneys to school staff and social workers to foster parents. The advocacy could include: investigating a child's history; researching resources for the family and child; and expediting permanency plans for the child. Who makes a good CASA? One need only be a concerned objective community member who is willing to listen and desires to help children in crisis. African American CASAs would make a difference because they look through a cultural lens that can bring immediate clarity and understanding to all involved. Currently, 25% of Pierce County foster children are African-American while only 10% of CASAs are African-American. CASA Supervisor Julie Lowery encourages concerned citizens who want to see communities get stronger to become more knowledgeable about the challenges and needs of families with dependent youth. "Becoming a CASA volunteer gives you a powerful voice in changing the future of these youth", says the veteran child advocate manager. CASAs are supervised by the Guardian ad litem program under the Pierce County Juvenile Court with Lin Spellman. Ms. Spellman can be contacted at 253 798-3837 and lin.spellman@co.pierce.wa.us. For more information about qualifications and training, check out the website www.WashingtonStateCASA.org. Decide today that you have the will and the heart to make an unforgettable difference, one child at a time.

Judy Neal, Gospel and Church News editor.

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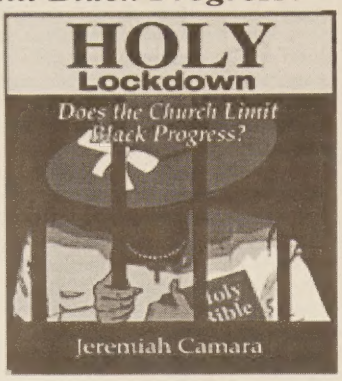
Holy Lockdown: Does the Church Limit Black Progress?



Jeremiah Camara

Holy Lockdown: Does the Church Limit Black Progress?

Why are there many churches, yet major problems in Black communities?
Why are Blacks amongst the most Jesus-Praising people in the world, yet the most fragmented and economically dependent?
Is there a correlation between high praising and low productivity?

Holy Lockdown addresses the paradox that exists within the Black community. One that reflects the abundance of Black churches coupled with the abundance of Black problems. There are approximately 85,000 predominately Black churches in this country, meaning, we could have 1,700 Black churches in every state!

Holy Lockdown takes a critical and long overdue look at the psychological impact the church and sermonic rhetoric has made on the Black collective, and it explores the possibility of the church as being a contributing factor to many social problems facing Blacks.

Holy Lockdown: Does the Church Limit Black Progress? is a much talked about book that has received the attention of many noted Black educators, including Dr. Frances Cress Welsing, author of The Isis Papers; Dr. Asa Hilliard III, author and professor at Georgia State College; Joan Cartwright, legendary Jazz vocalist; Professor Griff (Public Enemy), Dr. Rosie Milligan of Milligan Books and Keidi Obiawadu, founder of LIB Radio.

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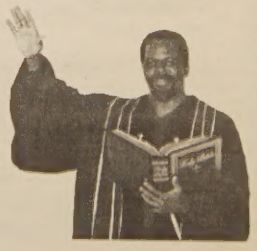
Gregory Christopher, D.Min., Pastor

Ministry -*An on going service to God and people.*

Ministry can be anything from working in the church nursery, volunteering at a homeless shelter or cleaning the pews to teach Sunday School, leading a Bible study or planting churches overseas.



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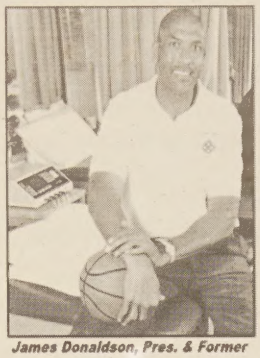

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Caring For An Aging Loved One? Get The Facts About Medicare

Did you know that one in five adults is the designated caregiver for an aging or disabled loved one who can't manage alone? More than 50 million individuals are selflessly engaged in providing 80 percent of all homecare services in America. In addition to assisting with activities of daily living, family caregivers are very influential providers of health care information for their care recipients.

If you are caring for someone who is eligible for Medicare or if you are among the millions of family caregivers who are eligible themselves, it is important that you learn as much as you can about the new Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. Medicare Part D is the most significant expansion in the history of the federal health program designed for the elderly and disabled.

The National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA) was founded to support, educate, empower, and advocate for America's millions of family caregivers. In keeping with its mission, NFCA urges you to learn more about Medicare Part D during open enrollment November 15, 2005 to May 15, 2006. As in many health plans, open enrollment is a great time to explore, compare, and make informed choices. It is also a time during which a one-time cost-saving incentive is offered for early enrollees. Of particular interest to family caregivers, this saving can impact the escalating costs and use of prescription drugs over the lifetime of a care recipient.

Get the facts. Plan ahead. A detailed explanation of the program is offered by the federal government through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: 1-800-MEDICARE and www.medi care.gov. Although very comprehensive, it can also be very complex.

Through the NFCA Web site, www.thefamilycaregiver.org, family caregivers can link to other sources of information that are easier to comprehend-some with links specifically designed for family caregivers. For more information about the benefits of NFCA membership or to support its non-profit programs, please visit the organization online.

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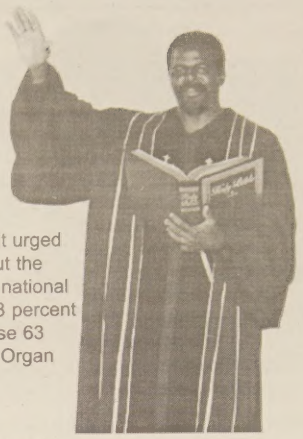
Black Churches Encourage Organ Donation



Worshippers at black churches in 20 states were urged this weekend to consider organ donation. The program, Linkages to Life, is aimed at raising awareness about organ donation among blacks, who suffer higher rates of diseases that damage the liver and kidneys.

The fourth annual effort took place over the weekend at nearly 60 churches. Instead of just asking churchgoers to sign organ donor cards, as in the past, speakers from the pulpit urged audience members to go home and talk about the issue in detail with family, said Victoria Dent, national chairwoman for Linkages.Blacks comprise 18 percent of U.S. organ recipients, while whites comprise 63 percent, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Only 12 percent of organ donors are black, according to Linkages.

Minorities are three times more likely than whites to have kidney failure and account for over half of the 56,500 Americans waiting for kidney transplants.

But they are less likely than whites to find a good genetic match and spend more time on the waiting list.

Nearly 25 percent of those who died waiting for an organ transplant last year were black.

Patient Richard Adams, a longtime deacon at Delaware Valley Baptist Church in Willingboro, received a kidney transplant in 2004 after his kidney failed due to damage from high blood pressure and diabetes.

He planned to describe his plight at a church service over the weekend.

"I just want to encourage them," Adams said Wednesday. "Coming from a black environment, we don't like to give up our organs."

A Sparkling Smile For The Season

If seasonal festivities are not making you smile, you may want to go see your dentist. Many people are afraid to smile because they are embarrassed about the state of their teeth. Their concerns may be well grounded.

A recent workplace survey found that 40 percent of respondents indicated that a smile was the first thing they noticed about a person at work when given a choice between that person's smile, eyes, clothing or hair. An overwhelming majority-90 percent-thought that a smile was important to a person's appearance.

When asked what was the least attractive feature about their co-workers, 42 percent said "not smiling," followed by 32 percent who cited "bad breath."

Fortunately, cosmetic dentists can correct a variety of problems that detract from a person's smile and overall appearance. Because it's now more affordable, more people have decided not to settle for unattractive teeth.

Veneers can be used to correct crooked, chipped or worn teeth. Crowns and bridges are an option for over- and under-bites and missing teeth.

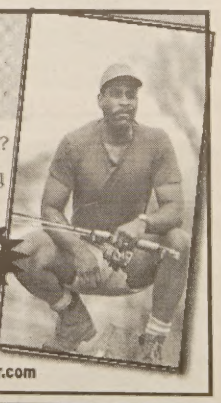
Improving the state of your teeth does not just offer cosmetic benefits. It also provides emotional and health benefits. The confidence that people received from a beautiful smile can help them build relationships and can help make networking easier. Higher self-esteem could motivate a person to pursue a new career or ask for a promotion.

Dentists who trained at LVI Global, a leading postgraduate cosmetic dentistry training center, say it's very satisfying to see the improvement in self-confidence a new and improved smile can bring.

The holiday season is a great time to meet people and network. Looking your very best can help you make the most of any social situation you find yourself in. See what cosmetic dentistry can do for you at www.lvidocs.com.

Improving the state of their teeth can inspire many people to enjoy life more.

You're Having Surgery... **Then What?**



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Dealing With A Diagnosis

Receiving a diagnosis of serious illness can be confusing, even overwhelming, but there are places you can turn for helpful advice and information.

For example, the Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has published a booklet to help sort things out. "Next Steps After Your Diagnosis" contains basic advice for people with almost any disease or condition. It has tips to help you learn more about your particular illness and about possible courses of action to consider.

The booklet describes five basic steps you can take to cope with your situation:

Step 1: Take the time you need. Don't panic, and don't rush into a decision.

Step 2: Get the support you need. Turn to family and friends for help.

Step 3: Talk to your doctor. Your doctor is the first person to ask about your disease or condition.

Step 4: Seek out information. Learn which treatment options are backed up by the best scientific evidence.

Step 5: Decide on a treatment plan. Work with your doctor on a plan that best meets your needs. The booklet also lists 10 important questions to ask your doctor. It suggests sources of additional information, with Web site addresses and phone numbers to help you begin learning about current medical research on your condition. The booklet is on the Internet at www.ahrq.gov/consumer/diag info.pdf. You can obtain a single copy free of charge by calling the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse at 1-800-358-9295 or sending an e-mail to ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov. When you receive a diagnosis, take the necessary steps to learn more about your condition and consult your physician. Become an active member of your health care team.

Choosing A Nursing Home For A Loved One

Many of us will have the sometimes daunting experience of placing a loved one in nursing home care. In order to make the process and transition easier, it is important to know what questions to ask and the best available resources for information. Following is a list of tips:

First, talk to the physician, nurse or social worker who can assess the individual's needs. Then, determine the best options in your area by visiting www. medicare.gov for ratings of nursing homes, financial and other information.

"A recent study in the American Journal of Nursing (AJN) found that providing at least 30 to 40 minutes of daily RN direct care time was strongly associated with better health outcomes. One of the most important factors to consider is if the facility provides a minimum of 4.1 to 4.5 hours of daily day-and-night direct staffing," said Susan D. Horn, co-author of the study and senior scientist, Institute for Clinical Outcomes Research, vice president of research for International Severity Information Systems, Inc (ISIS) and adjunct professor, Department of Medical Informatics, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City. "You should also consider how much direct care your loved one will receive by a Registered Nurse (RN). "

According to Charlene Harrington, professor at the School of Nursing, University of California, San Francisco, some other tips you should consider are:

- Check on how many complaints and deficiencies the facility may have received for federal regulation violations by visiting www.medicare.gov.
- Meet the administrator. Do not simply listen to what the marketing director says about the activities and facilities available for residents.
- Ask to speak with someone from the facility's resident or family council to learn how responsive the staff is to residents, the quality of food, etc.
- Determine how frequently the Medical Director sees the residents.
- Visit the nursing home during the evening hours and weekends to determine if the facility is clean and well-staffed.

For more information on the AJN study, visit the Web site www.ajnonline.com. Studies show more direct care with nurses may improve a nursing home resident's overall health.

TV Contestants Raising Awareness About Infertility

African-American couples struggling to overcome the challenge of infertility are not alone and should know that important information and support is available.

Significant advances have been made in the treatment of infertility, helping many women and men achieve their dream of having a family. Yet there are still a number of medical, emotional and environmental factors that can impact one's ability to have a baby-or even to seek medically necessary treatment-particularly among minority populations.

To help raise awareness about the issue, an organization that provides timely, compassionate support and information to people who are experiencing infertility, and increases awareness of infertility issues through public education and advocacy, has named a new couple as spokespeople.

Joyce Robinson Agu and Uchenna Agu, recent winners of "The Amazing Race," a CBS reality show, have agreed to become spokespeople and chairs of RESOLVE's National Infertility Awareness Week 2005.

Throughout their time on the show, they openly discussed their struggle with infertility and after winning "The Amazing Race," they are lending their voice to help others with infertility.

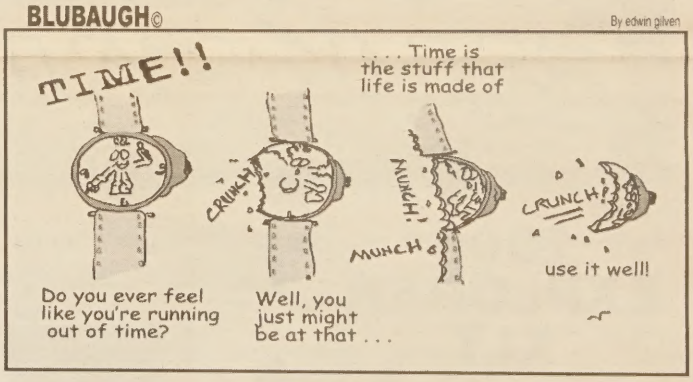
Having personally experienced infertility, Uchenna and Joyce have joined with RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association to help raise awareness about family building issues. During National Infertility Awareness Week®, October 23-29, they are helping to shed light on how cultural and economic status affects family-building options, and to highlight the fact that infertility does not discriminate.

The Agus added that there are also financial and informational barriers that can block access to infertility treatment. To address these issues, they are meeting with government officials to promote insurance coverage that could help make infertility treatment and adoption more accessible to all.

They pointed out that while infertility affects seven million men and women in the U.S., treatment remains largely uninsured, and adoption can also be very challenging and expensive.

For more than 30 years, RESOLVE has provided education, information, counseling and advocacy on behalf of all of us trying to build our families in the face of infertility. For more information, visit www.resolve.org.

Experts say advances in the treatment of infertility are offering hope to many women and men trying to start a family.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Things That Make You Go HU.

After watching last weekends local football teams making season making statements, I could not but wonder about the inequity that exists.

The Seattle Seahawks trounced the St. Louis Rams 31-16 at Quest Field and pretty much locked up the NFC West Division. The Seahawks win gave them a three game lead over the second place Rams. While the Hawks defense played well, it was the teams offense that showed why they are the number one ranked offense in the league.

The offense was led by All world running back Shaun Alexander's 165 yards and three touchdowns. Alexander has 17 touchdowns this season ."He looked like Larry Csonka out there today," Seahawks All-Pro guard Steve Hutchinson said. "He's having a great year and running hard, and you can't take any of that for granted. We're blessed to have him, and I think this offense is running like a well-oiled machine right now." So my question is why have the Seahawks not signed Alexander to a long term contract.If the Seahawks winning ways have left you delirious and forgetful, let me remind you that Shaun Alexander is a free agent at the end of the season.

Things that make you go Hu?

Another Hu, was the Washington Huskies football team's 38 to 14 win over the Arizona Wildcats in Arizona. The Huskies snapped a 14 game Pac Ten losing streak. The win has been a long time coming for Coach Tyrone Willingham and his players.

Running back James Simms rushed for a career high 200 yards to help the dogs in their streak breaker win.

Quarterback Isaiah Stanback rushed for 96 yards, scored two running touchdowns, passed for 157 yards and a touchdown. Not bad for a guy who was benched last week in the middle of the game. While much has been made of Stanback's mistakes , little has been said of his accomplishments during his first full year as the Huskies starter at qb. For example Stanback has 2,283 yards of total offense (passing yards plus rushing yards) this season and needs 83 more yards to move into the No. 10 spot on the UW single-season list, past Mark Brunell's 1990 total of 2,365 yards.Yeah the same Mark Brunell who is the starter for the Washington Redskins.

Stanback's current per-game average of 228.3 yards per game would rank No. 6 in Husky single-season history if the season ended today. With one more game on Saturday against the hated Washington State Cougars , Stanback has the potential to make this a productive season for him and his team. Yes this is the same guy the critics were calling for his demise just one week earlier.

Things that make you go HU?

Tickets for Venus and Serena

This is the information to share with anyone interested in purchasing tickets. Thanks for your help.

Emerald City Tennis Association is selling tickets to the Venus and Serena match at a 25% discount. The exhibition match is at Key Arena on November 17th at 7:30 pm.

Call Michelle Flannigan at 206-272-2742 and tell her you are buying the tickets through Emerald City Tennis Association. ***Emerald City Tennis*** will receive the credit for selling the tickets and the purchaser will get the discount.

Ticket Pricing:

$75 tickets are $56.25
$50.00 tickets are $37.50
$35.00 tickets are $26.25

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THE TACOMA FACTS NEWSPAPER SERVICE GUIDE

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(253) 475-4240

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1110 South 11th St. Tacoma, Wa. 98405
(253) 759-1621

Bail Bond Services

CJ Johnson Bail Bonds
620 S. 11th Tacoma, Wa.
(253) 272-1208

Barber & Beauty

A Cut Above Barbershop
9808 59th Ave. SW Lakewood, Wa
(253) 589-8851

Artistic Image
11218 Bridgeport Way SW Tacoma, WA
(253) 584-3998

A&M Beauty Salon
8209 Mt. Tacoma Dr. SW Lakewood, Wa
(253) 582-4301

Central Tacoma Cuts Barber & Beauty Salon
2151 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA 98405
(253) 272-0660

Classy & Sassy Braids & Beyond
11011 Occident St Sw , Tacoma, WA 98499
(253) 589-6668

Extraordinary Hair Designer
8012 S. Tacoma Way , Lakwood, WA 98499
(253) 588-5867

Good Fellas Barber Shop
1001 So. 11th St., Tacoma, WA 98405
(253) 573-1822

Designs By Faith Hair Salon
3715 Bridgeport Way, Suite D University Place, WA
(253) 460-1892

Professional Barbers
29500 Pacific Hwy. So. Suite K Federal Way 98003
(253) 941-3271

Beauty Time Beauty Supply
1112 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma WA 98405
(253) 779-0908

Sam & Terry Barber Shop
1705 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma WA 98405
(253) 573-1459

Yuseph's Legends Barbershop
4104 S. M St., Tacoma, WA 98408
(253) 476-1308

O.J. African Master Braiding
10307 Bridgeport Way S.W. Ste C.. Lakewood, WA
(253) 584-9502

New Attitude Hair Salon
6126 Motor Ave. Lakewood, WA
(253) 588-9512

G&J Hair
14520 Union Ave. SW. Tillicum, WA
(253) 582-0393

Shea's Beauty & Barbershop
14902 Union Ave. SW. Tillicum, WA
(253) 589-2988

Stylze Hare Care
4704 S. Oakes #110 Tacoma, WA
(253) 476-2294

Jus Cuttin' Up
5510 Orchard St, University Pl., WA
(253) 475-4036

J Kinlow Hair and Body Lab
4502 S. Steele St. Tacoma, WA 98409 (Inside Tacoma Mall)
(253) 473-8630

Books

Know Thy Self African Book Center
1314 Martin Luther King Way Tacoma, WA
(253) 572-8186

Childcare

Clothing

B & B Millenary (Hat)
sistersofhope@hotmail.com
(253) 572-2683

Airbrush Art By Tretch
Located Inside The B&I - 8012 S. Tacoma Way
(206) 579-6196

Head 2 Toe Fashions
5514 Pacific Ave Tacoma, WA
(253) 473-1816

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1210 Martin Luther King Way Tacoma, WA
(253) 383-2737

Letto's Clothing & Hair Braiding
4106 S. M St. Tacoma. WA
(253) 475-5495

Cosmetics &Body Art

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(253)583-TAT2

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(253) 476-2765

Jenet's Beauty Bar
Tacoma Mall - 4502 S. Steele St. Tacoma
(253) 671-8879

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1310 Martin Luther King Way Tacoma
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(253) 383-7144

Southern Touch Cafe
5502 Orchard ST. W. University PL. WA
(253) 473-6964

R.C's Food 4 The Soul
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
THE SISTA PROJECT
Tacoma | Pierce County Health Department
Healthier. Safer. Smarter.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department requests proposals from applicants capable of providing HIV Prevention Services for African American Women. Detailed proposal packets are available by contacting the Purchasing Office beginning November 9, 2005 at 9:00am. Packets may be obtained by calling (253) 798-6483. The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department will accept sealed proposals until 2:30pm Wednesday November 23, 2005. All submissions must be addressed to Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, 3629 South D St. MS:007 Tacoma, WA 98418

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STD PREVENTION SERVICES FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN
Tacoma | Pierce County Health Department
Healthier. Safer. Smarter.

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Study session to focus on budget proposal

Members of the City Council are scheduled to discuss the 2006 mid-biennium budget adjustments and details of the proposal for a community-based services pilot program during the Nov. 15 study session. The session agenda also includes discussion of proposed changes to the Tacoma Municipal Code related to fee schedules for selected services and an update on the Request for Qualifications and Proposals for management of the City's performing arts facilities – the Pantages Theater, Rialto Theater and Theatre on the Square. The public may attend the noon study session in Room 16, Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market St., but the Council will not take public comment. CityPost (Channel 85 on Click!, Channel 77 on Comcast) will air the audio portion of the session live. Replays of the study session audio may be heard Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. on CityPost (Channel 85 on Click!, Channel 77 on Comcast).

City Council to hold budget workshop Nov. 16

The City Council will hold the second of three planned budget workshops Nov. 16 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. to discuss the 2006 mid-biennium budget adjustments. The audio and video portions of the workshop will be broadcast live on TV Tacoma on cable Channel 12. Replays of the workshop will be posted on the TV Tacoma Web site within 24 hours of the presentation at www.tvtacoma.com.

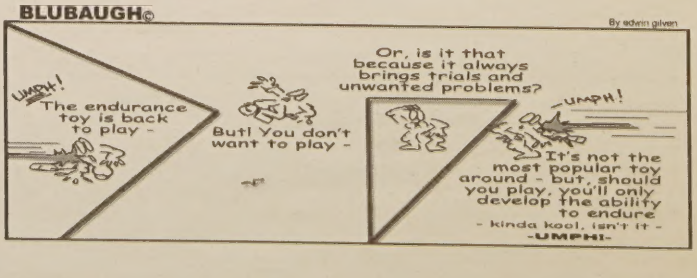
Council to hear final reading for Comprehensive Plan amendments

The proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code for 2005 are scheduled for final reading by the City Council Nov. 15. The amendments, each of which is contained in a separate ordinance, include:

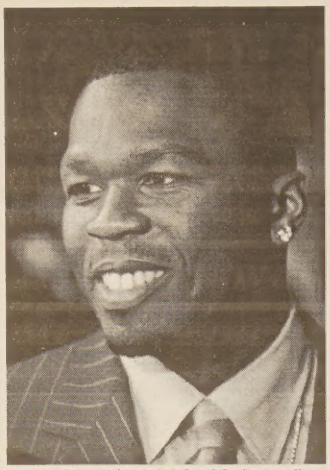
- Modifying the land use intensity areas and generalized land use plan map; revising the neighborhood elements for the South End, West End and South Tacoma; and modifying the marine guidelines chapter of the Thea Foss Waterway design and development plan.
- Modifying the City's Critical Areas Preservation Ordinance to change buffers for wetlands, streams and geological hazard areas, and to extend the interim regulations for critical areas adopted by Ordinance No. 27300 to June 30, or until amendments to Chapter 13.11 of the Municipal Code become effective, whichever comes first.
- Modifying Title 13 of the Municipal Code to increase the separation requirements for adult uses, correcting the legal description for an area-wide rezone along Tacoma Mall Boulevard, changing the view sensitive overlay district in the vicinity of North Orchard Street and Ruston Way and an area-wide rezone of the North Slope Historic District.

Ordinance would provide severance for employees affected by budget

City Council members are scheduled Nov. 15 to hear the first reading of an ordinance that would provide a severance package for eligible City employees who will have their jobs eliminated as part of the City Manager's reorganization plan associated with the 2006 mid-biennium budget adjustment. If approved by the City Council, the reorganization would result in the elimination of 41 positions and 22.5 of those positions are currently filled.


BLUBAUGH©
By edwin given
UMPH!
The endurance toy is back to play -
But! You don't want to play -
Or, is it that because it always brings trials and unwanted problems?
-UMPH!
It's not the most popular toy around - but, should you play, you'll only develop the ability to endure
- kinda kool, isn't it -
-UMPH!-

50 Cent to Launch Hip-Hop Book Line



Rapper and actor Curtis '50 Cent' Jackson smiles as he arrives at the premiere of Paramount Pictures' 'Get Rich Or Die Tryin' in New York November 7, 2005. The rapper is branching out into publishing with his own imprint, G-Unit Books.

50 Cent will again turn his reality into fiction with a new line of hip-hop novellas and graphic novels featuring his former G-Unit rap crew buddies, a publisher announced Pocket/MTV Books promised the venture would showcase "gritty" stories and cover much of the same terrain as 50 Cent's raps.

"These tales will tell the truth about The Life; the sex, guns and cash; the brutal highs and short lives of the players on the streets," the publisher said in a release over the weekend.

The G-Unit Books line of street fiction will feature G-Unit members Lloyd Banks, Tony Yayo, Young Buck and Olivia as characters, the release said.

Nikki Turner, author of "The Glamorous Life" and "A Hustler's Wife," will pen the line's first novella. It is set to be published in 2007.

50 Cent, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, was recently criticized by community groups in Philadelphia and Los Angeles for billboards promoting his semi-autobiographical movie, "Get Rich or Die Tryin'." The ads featured an image of him holding a gun in one hand and a microphone in the other.

Calling For A Change

Can a phone call change your life? Most young people believe it can. A recent survey survey of 14-to-24-year-olds found 80 percent had received a call that made a big difference.

A call from a friend or family member announcing a visit or a move to a respondent's city topped the list of special occasions at 67 percent. A phone call about getting a job ranked a close second at 65 percent. By contrast, "you've won" types of phone calls ranked at the bottom of the list.

The study also revealed that nearly half of today's youth have personally received a phone call about social events and dating that changed their lives in a positive way including:

- An invitation to a party where they met their boyfriend/girlfriend (47 percent);
- Someone they just met asking them out on a date (46 percent);
- An invitation to a prom or dance (45 percent).

Who do people call after getting good news on the phone? Younger respondents said news of the "pivotal moment" call was shared first with parents and friends. Older respondents tended to share news with their spouses first.

The survey was conducted by MRSI on behalf of Boost Mobile, a lifestyle-based telecommunications brand that develops and distributes wireless communications products for the youth market. Prompted in part by the nationwide study results, the company launched a new advertising campaign designed to showcase pivotal moments when a phone call, or more specifically a Boost Walkie-Talkie call, results in a once-in-a-lifetime moment that takes young people to a higher level.

The campaign showcases two celebrity icons, (Fat Joe and Eve) who are at the top of their respective games. It applies some creative license to show how a walkie-talkie call was a pivotal moment in their lives and their successes.

Additional survey findings include:

- More females than males claim to have received a positive pivotal moment call; most notably for getting a job and having a close friend or family member visit or move to their city.
- Males rank making a sports team among the top four positive personal pivotal moment calls. This is ranked eighth among females.
- More males than females felt an increased sense of confidence as the result of the call.
- Being accepted into college or winning a scholarship via a phone call ranks within the top three moments for 18 to 24-year-olds.

For more information visit www.boostmobile.com.

According to a recent survey, most young people have had life-altering good news by telephone.

Bush Honors Muhammad Ali and Aretha Franklin With Medals of Freedom

Aretha Franklin couldn't hold back the tears. Carol Burnett pranced coquettishly for the cameras. Muhammad Ali, though unable to walk unassisted, mimed boxing jabs with President Bush.

Having the president fasten the Medal of Freedom around your neck while an announcer booms your life's greatest accomplishments apparently does something even to those most accustomed to fame and fortune.

"All who receive the Medal of Freedom can know that they have a special place in the life of our country, and have earned the respect and affection of the American people," Bush said Wednesday as he gave the awards.Last year, Bush chose three architects of his Iraq agenda as the sole award winners - and drew fire for it.

This year's 14 recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the government's highest civilian honor, were divided about equally between sports and entertainment celebrities and prominent figures from the more sober worlds of economics, science, letters and policy.

They ranged from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan to Vinton Cerf and Robert Kahn, who designed a language for data transmission that gave rise to the Internet, and to golfer Jack Nicklaus and actor Andy Griffith.

Only one - Paul Rusesabagina, the hotelier whose shelter of hundreds of people from the 1994 Rwandan genocide was the subject of the movie "Hotel Rwanda" - was under 60. Actor Don Cheadle, who played Rusesabagina in the movie, sat on the edge of his chair toward the back of the audience, snapping pictures.

White House stewards - and even Bush himself - stepped in to help several recipients navigate the nearly hourlong ceremony. Ali suffers from Parkinson's disease and other ailments, and radio personality Paul Harvey, former Rep. Sonny Montgomery and Soviet historian Robert Conquest are all well into their 80s.

The other winners were: Gen. Richard Myers, the recently retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and baseball great Frank Robinson.

Bush saved Ali for last.

"When you say, 'The Greatest of All Time is in the room,' everyone knows who you mean," Bush said. "It's quite a claim to make. But as Muhammad Ali once said, `It's not bragging if you can back it up.' And this man backed it up."

Ali sat unsmiling, showing no reaction. Then Bush jokingly mimed a few punches in Ali's direction.

Ali didn't disappoint, coming right back at Bush to make a small circular hand movement - and then repeating it toward the cameras just to be sure he'd been seen.

City seeks youth dancers for 2006 Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration

Do you dance? The City of Tacoma needs your talent for the 2006 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. A third audition specifically for youth dance groups has been added Nov. 19 at Clover Park Technical College, Building 8. All dancers must follow the theme, "His Dream – Our Dream."

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be held Jan. 16, 2006 in the Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall and is a free annual multicultural event that has taken place since 1988. The celebration will be broadcast and replayed numerous times on TV Tacoma.

To schedule an audition, call Ellen Smith at (253) 472-2650, Jackie Wilson at (253) 536-2298, Genie Jefferson at (253) 228-4227 or Gary Pinkney at (253) 376-8364.